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LITTLE TOKYO BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

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November 28, 2016

On behalf of the Little Tokyo Business Improvement District (BID), which is comprised of 430 businesses and managed by the Little Tokyo Business Association, we are writing to express enthusiastic support for Alternative B3 as the preferred option for redevelopment of the Parker Center Site.

In addition to being the most cost efficient and accommodating current and future office needs of City Departments, Alternative B3 can potentially provide:

1. Commercial space geared toward patrons other than City employees.
2. A pedestrian corridor that more naturally connects Little Tokyo to the Civic Center and beyond, including Grand Avenue Park, Disney Hall, and the Music Center.
3. Much needed additional parking.
4. Larger floor plate that can accommodate one or more City departments on one floor.

For Little Tokyo stakeholders, the site embodies a significant part of the City's rich cultural history that predates the construction of Parker Center. At the turn of the 20th century, the site had become a hub for the emerging Japanese immigrant population. Two institutions established to serve those immigrants are still in existence in Little Tokyo today--Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple founded in 1905, and *Rafu Shimpō* newspaper, which operated from the building at the northeast corner of 1st and Los Angeles Sts from 1915-1950. We wish to express our appreciation to the Chief Administrative Officer, Council District 14, City Department of Planning, and other departments for their ongoing efforts to encourage input from Little Tokyo stakeholders. In suggesting Alternative B3, we join you in working to ensure that development of the Parker Center site enhances not only the Civic Center, but our community and neighboring Downtown areas as well.

Yours truly,

Joanne Kumamoto
Co-Chair Little Tokyo BID

Ellen Endo,
President, Little Tokyo Business Association
Co-Chair, Little Tokyo BID